

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A rear blade mounting apparatus designed to be mounted to the rear of a bulldozer, said mounting apparatus comprising:

a frame having first and second support arms, said first and second support arms pivotally mounted to ~~the~~ a rear portion of said bulldozer,

a blade having first and second upper end portions disposed adjacent an upper edge of the blade at opposite ends of said blade, and a first and second midway pivot points adjacent to a midway portion of the blade, said blade pivotally attached to an end of said frame.

at least one upper hydraulic cylinder wherein one end of the at least one upper hydraulic cylinder is pivotally attached to the rear portion of said bulldozer, and an opposite end of the at least one upper hydraulic cylinders ~~are~~ is pivotally attached to said upper edge of said blade,

a pair of lower hydraulic cylinders wherein one end of each of the lower hydraulic cylinders ~~are~~ is pivotally attached to the rear portion of said bulldozer below the at least one upper hydraulic cylinders, and opposite ends of the lower hydraulic cylinders are pivotally attached to the frame ~~midway portions of the blade~~, and

operating means to control the at least one upper hydraulic cylinders and lower hydraulic cylinders.

2. (Currently Amended) The rear blade mounting apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein the at least one ~~pair of~~ upper hydraulic cylinder and lower hydraulic cylinders telescopically extend and retract for selective positioning of the blade.

3. (Original) A rear blade mounting apparatus designed to be mounted to the rear of a bulldozer body, said mounting apparatus comprising;

a frame having at least a first support arm, said first support arm pivotally mounted to a rear portion of said bulldozer,

a blade having at least a first upper end portion disposed adjacent an upper edge of the blade, and first and second midway pivot points adjacent to a midway portion of the blade, said blade pivotally attached to an end of said frame,

at least one upper hydraulic cylinder, wherein one end of the upper hydraulic cylinder is pivotally attached to the rear portion of said bulldozer, and an opposite end of the upper hydraulic cylinder is attached to said upper edge of said blade,

a pair of lower hydraulic cylinders wherein one end of each of the lower hydraulic cylinders is pivotally attached to the rear portion of said bulldozer below the upper hydraulic cylinder, and opposite ends of the lower hydraulic cylinders are pivotally attached to the frame, and

operating means to control the upper hydraulic cylinder and the pair of lower hydraulic cylinders.

4. (Original) The rear blade mounting apparatus as recited in Claim 3, wherein the upper cylinder and the pair of lower cylinders telescopically extend and retract for selective positioning of the blade.

5. (Original) The rear blade mounting apparatus as recited in Claim 4, wherein extending the upper cylinder pivots the blade relative to the frame and extending said pair of lower cylinders pivots the frame relative to the bulldozer.

6. (Original) The rear blade mounting apparatus as recited in Claim 5, wherein said blade has a width approximately equal a width of said bulldozer and wherein said blade is substantially a flat plate with a blade edge adjacent a bottom of said blade.

7. (Original) A combination bulldozer and rear blade mounting apparatus for mounting a blade on a rear portion of a bulldozer body, said combination comprising:
said bulldozer including a bucket on the front thereof, said bucket having a width,
a frame pivotally mounted to a rear portion of said bulldozer,
a blade having an upper edge and a lower edge and said blade pivotally attached to an end of said frame opposite said bulldozer,

at least one upper hydraulic cylinder wherein one end of the upper hydraulic cylinder is pivotally attached adjacent to the rear portion of said bulldozer, and an opposite end of the upper hydraulic cylinder is attached to said upper edge of said blade,

a lower hydraulic cylinder wherein one end of the lower hydraulic cylinder is pivotally attached to the rear portion of said bulldozer below the upper hydraulic

cylinder, and an opposite end of the lower hydraulic cylinder is pivotally attached to the frame, and

operating means to control the upper hydraulic cylinder and the lower hydraulic cylinder.

8. (Original) The combination as recited in Claim 7, including a second upper hydraulic cylinder mounted parallel to said upper hydraulic cylinder.

9. (Original) The combination as recited in Claim 8, including a second lower hydraulic cylinder mounted parallel to said lower cylinder.

10. (Original) The combination as recited in Claim 7, wherein extending the upper cylinder pivots the blade relative to the frame and extending said lower cylinder pivots the frame relative to the bulldozer.

11. (Original) The combination as recited in Claim 10, wherein said blade has a width approximately equal a width of said bulldozer and wherein said blade is substantially a flat plate with a blade edge adjacent a bottom of said blade such that extending said lower cylinder will place the blade edge on the ground in a horizontal orientation.

12. (Original) The combination as recited in Claim 10, wherein said blade has a width effectively equal to the width of said front bucket.

13. (Original) The combination as recited in Claim 10, wherein the one end of said upper hydraulic cylinder is attached to said frame.